



**MINUTES OF THE
MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 2016
COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING
BEDFORD STUYVESANT RESTORATION CORPORATION
1368 FULTON STREET
BROOKLYN, NY 11216**

Attendance:

Members Present: Idris Abdullah, Felicia Alexander, Tywan Anthony, Dr. Kim Best, Anthony Buissereth, Ivy Gamble-Cobb, Evelyn Collier, Dolores Witherspoon-Dickerson, Taina Evans, Richard Flateau, Keith Forest, Gregory Glasgow, Mary Jemison-Head, Kimberly Hill, Oma Holloway, , Christopher James, Edna Johnson, Dr. Kerliene Johnson, Hardy “Joe” Long, Dovie Matthews, Paulette Moorehead, Eldica Murray, Michael McCaw, Santana Payton, Stacey Ruffin, Nelson M. Stoute, Cheska Tolentino, Rev. Dr. Robert Waterman, Shanita Wells, Antonio Whitaker, Douglas Williams, Tremaine Wright

Members Absent: Gloria Boyce, Mulan Isaiah Burgess, Brenda Fryson, Sean Hawkins, Marion Little, Bernice McRae, Dweynie Paul (Resigned), Kwaku Payton, C. Doris Pinn, Adrian Sinclair, Abraham Smilowitz, Lydia Temples, Rev. Jesse Sumbry, T. J. Wilson

INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Ms. Mary Jemison Head.

REMARKS FROM THE CHAIRPERSON – Tremaine S. Wright

The Chair read the agenda into the record.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

Hon. Hakeem Jeffries

Congressman Jeffries announced his 3rd State of the District Address will be held on January 21st, at Long Island University, Paramount Theater. It will begin at 6:30 p.m. To RSVP, please call 718-237-2211.

Candice Julien – Hon. Eric Adams

Ms. Julien announced that tickets were available for the Islanders game at the Barclays Center along with flyers for upcoming events at Borough Hall.

In addition, she announced that a new application will be available online at the end of the month for new members and returning members at www.brooklyn-usa.org . Ms. Julien can be reached at 718-802-3981.

Michael Smith – Hon. Annette Robinson

Mr. Smith informed the audience that he was returning from a hearing regarding co-locations and closing of schools in District 16. Assembly Member Robinson has met with the school Chancellor and the former superintendent regarding this issue. There is an Acting Superintendent now. District 16 is being targeted as a failing district.

Shawn Francis – Hon. Darlene Mealy

Council Member Mealy’s monthly Advisory Board Meeting will be held on January 9th, from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon, at her District office.

Drew Gabriel – Hon. Laurie Cumbo

Council Member Cumbo in conjunction with other elected officials will host a Free Citizenship Application Assistance on January 9th, from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. The workshop will be held at Medgar Evers College, 1150 Carroll Street.

He added that the Discretionary Funding application is available online.

Brian McLaurin – Hon. Leticia James

Mr. McLaurin informed the audience that the Public Advocate sued NYCHA for failing to provide heat to the tenants.

In addition, Public Advocate James has introduced a bill requiring the Department of Sanitation to establish a program to assist seniors with snow removal. It will also reduce the fines.

Shelton Jones – Hon. Kenneth Thompson

Mr. Jones informed the audience about the arrest made at the Chase Bank involving stolen money. He also encouraged everyone to call the Action Center at 718 250- 2340 to report any suspicious activities. He stated that the District Attorney offers workshop on Elder Abuse and how to avoid it.

Mr. Jones added that January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month. The Brooklyn Human Trafficking Task Force in conjunction with Safe Horizon will be hosting an event with Sarah Jones. It will be held at the YWCA, 30 Third Avenue on January 19th, at 6:00 p.m. Please RSVP.

Hon. Velmanette Montgomery

Senator Montgomery gave an update on the result and recommendation of the My Brother’s Keeper Committee which is chaired by Dr. Lester Young. The committee’s goal was to look at and propose a system that would improve the outcome and the opportunities for young men of color. A package was distributed with the committee’s recommendation. The Board of Regents voted to accept the recommendation. She asked the Board to support the recommendations by sending a letter.

She also highlighted Boys and Girls High School in her monthly newsletter because it is part of the community.

Hon. Robert Cornegy, Jr.

Council Member Cornegy informed the audience that applications are available for discretionary funding. Please visit www.council.nyc.gov to apply.

In addition, the Council Member will be hosting a Small Business Town Hall at Restoration Plaza, on January 11th, from 6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Olanike Alabi – 57th Assembly District Leader

She informed that she has a list of events to celebrate the life of Dr. King. It was email to the District Manager. She added that there are 4 elections this year, please register to vote.

Hon. Latrice Walker

Assembly Member Walker informed the audience that she will be rallying to raise the minimum wage to \$15.00. She has introduced legislation to require clearance for early voting, and online voting.

In addition, the Assembly Member will sponsor a bus to Albany on January 12th. The bus will depart from her office at 400 Rockaway Avenue at 6:30 p.m.

Karen Cherry – Hon. Erik Dilan

Ms. Cherry provided residents with the 2016 Parking Calendar.

Acknowledgements

P. O. Michelle McLeod – 79th Precinct, Pansy Nettles – Brevoort Houses Tenant Association President, Dordy Jourdain – YMCA

DISTRICT MANAGER’S REPORT – Henry L. Butler

Mr. Butler informed the audience about a Public Hearing concerning the proposed development of the Woodhull parking lot to house adult with mental health. The hearing will take place at NYC Health and Hospitals, 125 Worth Street, Room 519, on January 7th, at 6:00 p.m.

I. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION

A. Health & Social Service Committee:

The NYC Department of Health will discuss the 2015 Community Health Profile Report. Edna Johnson, Committee Chair introduced Torian Easterling, MD, MPH, Assistant Commissioner of Department of Health & Mental Hygiene (DOHMH)

Dr. Torian Easterling gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Community Health Profile 2015 for Bedford Stuyvesant. He highlighted some of the health disparities in the community such as premature mortality, diabetes. The study looked at how poverty limits health and healthy life styles, housing, economics and social conditions affect the outcome of health. They are looking at healthy living.

The DOHMH compared 4 community districts: Brownsville, East New York, Bushwick and Bedford- Stuyvesant. These community shows very poor outcomes. The information is available on the Health Department website at www.nyc.gov/health. Copies can also be picked up at the District office, 485 Throop Avenue between the hours of 8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Their number is 718-637-5316. Dr. Easterling can be reached at teasterling@health.nyc.gov.

II. PUBLIC HEARING

A. Economic Development Committee:

Alcohol Beverage Control License Application request for a letter of support, by 382 MGB Inc., located at 382 Marcus Garvey Blvd, between Jefferson and Hancock Streets.

Richard Flateau, Committee Chair introduced Frank Moe, Owner and his representative Anthony Caraballo

Mr. Caraballo stated that Mr. Moe is an experienced operator. He has owned and operated a business at Rope, 415 Myrtle Avenue from 2003-2012 and Hot Bird, 825 Atlantic Avenue since 2010. He recently purchased a Town House two blocks away.

This is a small operation. He will most likely have three employees. The hours of operation will be from 5:00 p.m. – 2:00 a.m., 7 days a week. A PowerPoint was shown. He provided a letter of support from the District Manager of Community Board 2, Robert Perris. There will be 7 tables with 20 seats/stools. The capacity is 74.

Questions and Answers

Christopher James: Is this a bar or restaurant?

Frank Moe: It is primarily a bar however, sliders will be served.

Demetrice Mills: Why are you moving so much?

Frank Moe: When the lease expires, the rent is raised or the lease is not renewed.

Tywan Anthony: How will you manage the crowd from the men shelter?

Frank Moe: Everyone is welcome. I don't anticipate any issues.

Michael McCaw: Is the building vetted? Is this a commercial space?

Frank Moe: We will get a letter of No Objection from the Department of Building. There is no C of O.

Anthony Caraballo: He will not be able to get a license without the DOB approval. The architect is not here to speak to this.

Ryan Joseph: What will the community gain, the hipsters are treated better at some of these new places.

Frank Moe: He reiterated that everyone is welcome. We don't treat people differently.

Mary Jemison Head: Did you speak to the churches in the area?

Frank Moe: I am aware of the churches. We have a good relationship.

Santina Payton: Is this cash only?

Frank Moe: Yes, it is a small operation.

B. Economic Development Committee:

Alcohol Beverage Control License Application request for a letter of support by Brooklyn A Hotel, located at 1199 Atlantic Avenue, between Bedford and Nostrand Avenues.

Richard Flateau, Committee Chair introduced Meyer Bodher, Owner and Melinda Park, General Manager.

Ms. Park stated that this is an Independent Boutique Hotel four floors, 34 guest rooms. There are 6 guest rooms on the first floor, 8 on the second and third floors and 12 on the fourth floor. The rooms range from standard to junior suites.

She explained that Meyer Bodher owns the hotel however, it is managed by Rio Hospitality Group, her employer. They have been open for three months with 8 full-time employees, 2 part-time employees. Some from the local area. They plan to open a bar in the lobby area for the guest. The hours of operation will be 5:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m., 7 days a week.

A PowerPoint was shown highlighting the interior of the hotel. Ms. Park stated that there are 12 different wallpaper showcasing various areas of Brooklyn. The junior suite is 440 sq. ft.

The owner introduced himself to the audience.

Questions and Answers

Ryan Smith: Why did you choose this location and what are the rates?

Melinda Park: The rate ranges from a low hundreds to 400 hundreds depending on the room. They also have government, AAA, and AARP rates

Meyer Bodher: We have owned the building for 10 years as a warehouse.

Michael McCaw: Do you have other hotels in the City and are you affiliated with any entities that owns hotel? Do you have a contract with the Department of Homeless Services?

Melinda Park: No, this is his first hotel which is why he hire us.

Kimberly Hill: Will you have community space available?

Melinda Park: In the lower level we have 1 meeting room for rent. It is about 1400 sq. ft. Her email is Melinda.park@thebrooklynny.com or visit the website at www.thebrooklynny.com

III. ROLL CALL

There were 32 members present and 1 absent.

IV. COMMITTEE UPDATES

Ms. Collier gave a report on the proposed project at 172 MacDonough Street between Throop Avenue and Marcus Garvey Blvd. The committee met with the architect for the project on December 14th. The proposed scope of the project is to install a new roof bulkhead, demo and renovate the interior, replace the windows in the front and rear façade, renovate the rear façade, remove an existing mudroom extension, add a new exterior deck and stairs at the rear and add two more bathrooms.

The Committee voted unanimously NO on the application for the installation of a bulkhead structure and deck railings on the roof of the property.

V. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Martha Works – 81st Precinct Community Council

Ms. Works informed that the next meeting of the precinct council will be on January 12th, at 1958 Fulton Street, at 7:00 p.m.

Dr. Kim Best – 79th Precinct Community Council

Dr. Best announced the next precinct council meeting will be held on January 27th, at the Brooklyn Job Corp., 7:00 p.m.

Taina Evans – Brooklyn Public Library

Ms. Evans announced that the library has a 16 branch bowling league. Macon and Marcy Branches are included. Anyone interested in participating can visit the branches on January 7th, from 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 Noon. For more information, please visit www.brooklynlibrary.org or call 718-230-2014.

Oma Holloway

Girls Scouts cookies are available for \$4.00 a box. In addition, Ms. Holloway informed the audience about the MyBase program which provides opportunities for young adults between 16-24 years from Bed-Stuy who are out of school and out of work. This is a 14 weeks paid internship. For more information, please see Ms. Holloway.

Demetrice Mills

Mr. Mills reported that there was a meeting with HPD and the Parks Department regarding the gardens which will be development for housing. He reported that 34 of the 43 property that HPD owns will be saved. 27 gardens in Brooklyn were saved, 6 of which are in Bed-Stuy.

Dr. Bernell Marcus

He discussed the issue of DOT installing islands on Eastern Parkway as a way of eliminating the West Indian Day Parade. He asked that residents should Interfaith Hospital. A new Black CEO was recently appointed. In addition, he stated that 4 schools are slated to be closed in Bed-Stuy including Boys and Girls High School.

Kimberly Hill

Ms. Hill stated that there will be a Diabetes Support Night for individuals with Type 1 and 2 diabetes. It will be held at the Bedford Branch Library, on January 7th, at 6:00 p.m. and every first Thursday of the month thereafter.

Reginald Swiney

He asked for an update from the FDNY on the recent fires.

Ms. Wright explained that resident can speak with the officers at the precinct council one on one to get feedback on issues.

VI. ACTION ON THE PUBLIC HEARING

A. 382 MGB request for a letter of support for an Alcohol Beverage Control License

Antonio Whitaker stated that the committee met with the owner and his legal representative of 382 MGB on December 3rd. A site visit was conducted and all documents were provided. The committee's recommendation is to provide a letter of support.

A motion was made to accept the recommendation by Gregory Glasgow and seconded by Edna Johnson. [..\Vote for 382 MGB Inc.pdf](#)

B. Brooklyn A Hotel request for a letter of support for an Alcohol Beverage Control License

Richard Flateau stated that the committee met with the owner on December 3rd. A site visit was conducted and all documents were provided. The committee's recommendation is to provide a letter of support.

A motion was made to accept the recommendation by Douglas Williams and seconded by Keith Forest.

[..\Vote for Brooklyn A Hotel.pdf](#)

C. Landmarks Committee recommendation for 172 MacDonough Street

Ms. Collier stated that the committee is asking the Board to accept their recommendation and not give a letter of support. A motion was made to accept the recommendation and seconded.

[..\Resolution for 172 MacDonough Street.pdf](#)

[..\Vote for 172 MacDonough St.pdf](#)

VII. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Tremaine S. Wright

Ms. Wright reminded everyone that they should join a committee if they have not already done so. A list of the committee chairs for 2016 were distributed. [..\List of Committee Chairs 2016.pdf](#)

VIII. ACCEPTANCE OF DECEMBER 7, 2015 MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes with corrections was made by Richard Flateau and seconded by Hardy "Joe" Long.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,
Beryl Nyack
January 19, 2016